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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/096,684 06/12/98 FRAME

R 17659-016

EXAMINER

LM02/0321

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2778

DATE MAILED:

03/21/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/096,684

Applicant(s)

Robert C. France

Examiner

LAC, LUN-YI

Group Art Unit

2778

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1 7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-4, 6, 10-16, 18-24, 29, 30 and 33-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Richardson et al(6,028,764).

As to claims 1, 11, 13, 30 and 35-38, Richardson et al teach a portable computer system comprising one or more battery connectors(60)(see figures 1, 7 and column 3, lines 18-27); a portable base computer(12) having a wireless receiver(70, 76); a processor(32) having a data input operatively connected to the wireless receiver and having a power input connected to one of the battery connectors; mass storage(42) and a wireless transmitter(68, 74); and a portable user interface module(14) having a wireless receiver(70, 76); a display(18) for displaying a window having a data input connected to the wireless receiver(70, 76) and having a power input connected to one of the battery connectors; a user interface device(54b) and a wireless transmitter(68, 74)(see figures 1, 7, 8; column 2, lines 61-68 and column 3, lines 1-43).

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As to claims 12, 20 and 21, Richardson et al teach an user interface module comprising obstacle-tolerant wireless transmitter and receiver(radio communication, 82, 84)(see figure 9 and column 3, lines 50-57).

As to claims 2, 14, 22 and 33, Richardson et al teach a mechanical connector or mechanical docking connector(26, 28) for holding the base computer(12) in contact with the user interface module(14)(see figures 1-6 and column 2, lines 24-27).

As to claims 3, 4, 15, 16, 23, 24 and 33, Richardson et al teach an electrical connector(62) for electrically connecting the base computer(12) to the user interface module(14) and the electrical connector including bypass contacts operation(see figure 7 and column 3, lines 4-5).

As to claims 6, 18 and 19, Richardson et al teach a portable computer system comprising at least a portion of local area network connected between the processor(32) and a display(18)(see figures 7, 9 and column 3, lines 1-3 and lines 50-68, and column 4, lines 1-33).

As to claims 10, 29 and 34, Richardson et al teach the portable base computer(12) and the user interface module(14) having a same size.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5, 7-9, 17 and 25-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richardson et al(6,028,764) in view of Mizukata et al(5,657,039).

Richardson et al fail to disclose a 640X480 display, a pointing device, a keyboard with letter and ten decimal keys.

Mizukata et al teach a portable computer system comprising a 640X480 display for display a window, a pointing device(224) and a keyboard(222) with letter and ten decimal keys(see figures 1, 10, 11; column 5, lines 31-36; column 33, lines 28-37 and column 34, lines 1-7). It would have been obvious to have modified Richardson et al with the teaching of Mizukata et al, since Richardson et al has disclosed a portable computer with a display(18) and a display(18) is a touch panel display(see figure 1 and column 3, lines 44-49).

5. Claims 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richardson et al(6,028,764) in view of Dat(5,831,818).

Richardson et al fail to disclose the weight of the portable computer is under about nine pounds and the space of the portable computer is about two inches by nine inches by twelve inches.

Dat teaches the wight of the portable computer is about five pounds and the size of the computer is small(see figure 1; abstract and column 1, lines 7-13). It would have been obvious to have modified Richardson et al with the teaching of Dat, so as to easy carry .

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It would have been an obvious design choice to make a portable computer is about two inches by nine inches by twelve inches, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the size of a component. A change in size is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art In re Rose, 105 USPQ 237(CCPA 1955).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Gee et al teach a display system comprising a base member(10) and an interface module(24) with a display(44) and a keyboard(46).

Landau teaches a computer system comprising a removable display(11) connected to a base unit(13) via a cable(C).

Want et al teach a user interface system comprising a wireless transmitter.

Johnson et al teach a portable computer having a transmitter(24) in a base unit(14) and a receiver(34) in a display unit(16).

7. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Box AF

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or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications; please mark "EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE")

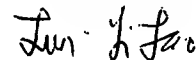
Or:

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"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Lun-yi, Lao at telephone
number (703) 305-4873.

March 17, 2000



Lun-Yi Lao
Primary Examiner